

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus for treating water has a contact zone, a separation zone and a collection zone. The contact zone and the separation zone are located adjacent to each other in a tank. Feed water containing pressurized dissolved

5 air enters and releases bubbles into the separation zone. The bubbles contact the contaminants to form bubble-contaminant complexes that float upwards and spread over the surface of the tank. Bubble-contaminant complexes move to the collection zone. A filtered permeate is withdrawn from the water in the tank through an immersed membrane filtration module

10 located within the separation zone of the tank.

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